

Why engineers need humanities

Jacob Stein
Staff Writer

Joanne Greenberg, a published author most famous for her best-selling book *I Never Promised You a Rose Garden*, gave a lecture to a small group last Wednesday in the Boettcher Room of the library. Greenberg is the visiting professor of the Hennebach Humanities program. She studied at American University, as well as the University of London and Colorado University. She is also a distinguished Mines Medal Winner. Joanne addressed the crowd concerning the issue of humanities at an engineering school.

She first proposed the question, "Why does the engineering student need humanities?" The answer to this, Greenberg explained, is tied to what kind of people come to Mines. A majority of Mines students come from European backgrounds, especially Irish and German heritages, where farming was prevalent. Because of this, Orediggers have the "handy gene" in their DNA. Mines students always seek the solution to problems and overcome obstacles. Engineering is suitable because it always involves solving problems.

To answer her question further, Greenberg explained that engineering goes beyond crunching numbers. Without the humanities, arts, writing, and music, technical work loses its soul. She cited a Cambridge University study which showed engineering schools that teach the humanities produce better engineers. Greenberg then made the point that when engineers embark on large, difficult

projects, they often have the technology to complete the task, but lack the knowledge; this is where the humanities tie in. According to Greenberg, without the humanities, there is no reason for engineering and no life in it.

Greenberg concluded her lecture by explaining how humanities and the creative arts can bring fun to

engineers and open a part of their brain they do not normally use. "All creativity begins in fun, have we forgotten that?" she pondered.

Greenberg suggests that, before complaining about LAIS requirements or putting a poor effort into an NHV paper, Mines students should think about why the Liberal Arts are important.

JACOB STEIN / OREDIGGER



Mines modifies core curriculum

Ian Littman
Asst. Business Manager, Web Content

"The current undergraduate common core, designed in 1996, was motivated by a desire to lay robust foundations in math and basic sciences for all degree programs. Since 1996, very few changes have been implemented, speaking to the strength and validity of the core as an academic concept," stated Associate Provost Wendy Harrison's memo to Mines faculty, dated March 22.

"However, the emergence of biosciences and bioengineering research at CSM led to the approval of the new degree program in Chemical and Biochemical Engineering in 2007 with a foundation requirement in biology that could not be met without making core curriculum changes," the memo continued. "Additionally, external pressure to be vigilant about the number of required credit hours in all degrees cannot always be addressed by reducing the discipline-specific technical content, further reason for a re-examination of the core."

As a result, the 2010 core cur-

riculum for Mines students has been revised slightly downward, with Faculty Senate approval occurring March 2 and Provost approval following four days later.

The new Distributed Science core consists of Physics II, Chemistry II, Earth and Environmental Systems and BELS 101, plus the MCS department's new Intro to Computer Science (CSCI101) course. Each major is required to take at least three of the five courses, though for majors other than Economics & Business certain classes are required, and for some majors one or two of the five courses does not count toward the "three out of five" Distributed Science requirement. EPICS II has been moved to what is now known as the Distributed Engineering course selection, which includes Thermodynamics 209 and 210, Statics, and Circuits I.

For example, Chemical Engineering students, including those in the Biochemical major, are required to take Physics II, Chemistry II, and BELS 101 as their three Distributed Science courses. Chemistry and Physics majors can elect to take Earth and Environmental Systems (SYGN101) rather

than BELS 101, as can Civil and Environmental Engineering majors. Metallurgical and Materials Engineering students have the same Distributed Science requirement.

Mining, Petroleum, and Geological Engineering students must take SYGN 101, Physics II, and Chemistry II courses as their Distributed Science core. Geophysics majors have a similar requirement, but can swap BELS 101 for Chemistry II for their Distributed Science core.

Electrical Engineering and Math/Computer Science majors are required to take Physics II and Intro to Computer Science, but are able to pick their third required Distributed Science class from the three remaining available courses.

All told, the new course structure, effective Fall 2010, will give ten of Mines's fifteen majors at least one core curriculum choice. This change also makes Chemistry II optional for four majors and Physics II optional for one (Economics & Business). Additionally, EPICS II is no longer required for Chemistry, Economics & Business, and Math/Computer Science majors, none of which are ABET-accredited.

What's next for nuclear?

Katie Huckfeldt
Staff Writer

In a world of ever-increasing technology, research in nuclear fuel for energy production remains a popular topic. Mines' Professor Samuel Romberger of the Geological Engineering department gave a detailed look at this industry in his most recent Van Tuyl lecture, entitled, "Nuclear Power Industry Past, Present, and Future."

Romberger began with a brief history of nuclear power; from the first power-generating reactor to become operational in Hanford, Washington to the 435 reactors today that produce 15% of the world's power. Digressing to the present, Europe produces the most nuclear power with France leading with 78% of its total production. The US trails behind with about 20% of its energy requirements being met by nuclear power. But, the future is what we can affect and is where our focus should lie. Assuming a conservative 2.5% annual growth in the world's power demand, 1200 reactors will be needed by 2045 to maintain the 15% power currently provided. In the US alone, three new reactors would be needed every two years, beginning in 2016, to maintain 20% nuclear power production. Romberger blatantly stated, "It's not going to happen." But worldwide there are big plans for nuclear. There are 36 reactors under construction, 99 planned, and 232 proposed. Also, the number of countries producing nuclear energy is estimated to rise from 31 to 45 by 2045. As Romberger points out, "There is a lot of potential in the world for building new reactors."

As far as the future of reactor designs is concerned, the "Gen4 reactors" have the potential to boost nuclear power to a new level. One new design, the supercritical water-cooled reactor, operates at a significantly higher temperature than current reactors. Increased temperature is directly proportional to the thermal efficiency, so the higher the temperature, the more

efficient the reactor. This has great impacts on the nuclear industry because, as Romberger points out, the two current reactor designs, pressurized water and boiling water reactors, are "limited in the temperatures [they] can reach." Another design gaining support is the "fast neutron reactor design." These fast reactors eliminate the need for a moderator and actually consume nuclear waste. Nuclear waste is one of the greatest drawbacks to nuclear power, so the implications of a reactor without waste are huge. Some countries already have Gen4 reactors in operation, but the majority still use pressurized and boiling water reactors.

Romberger continued by addressing the issue of mining the Uranium for use in the reactors. He stated that "the expansion of nuclear power lies in the availability of uranium." Canada currently produces the most Uranium, especially in the McArthur River mining site, and the US trails as the second largest producer. Of known Uranium reserves, the largest site, with 23% of the world's total Uranium, is in Australia. Reactors get their Uranium supply from these mines, government stockpiles, or recycled fuel rod materials.

As mentioned, nuclear waste from the reactors is one of the major issues with nuclear production. Romberger addressed the problem, stating, "Waste is an issue, but it can be dealt with. The French are dealing with it. The Swedes are dealing with it." With the fast-neutron reactor design and plans for waste disposal sites, such as Yucca Mountain in the US, the situation is being addressed.

It is clear that nuclear power is a large contributor to the supply of the world's energy and will continue to be in the future. For students interested in the nuclear field, this is the first semester the school is offering nuclear engineering seminars. To learn more about nuclear and for information on lectures such as Romberger's, visit <http://mailman.mines.edu> and click on the "nse-seminar" link.

Fast facts about the new curriculum

- EPICS II is no longer required for:
 - o Chemistry
 - o Economics & Business
 - o Math & Computer Science
- Classes in the Distributed Science core:
 - o Earth & Environmental Systems
 - o Biological & Environmental Systems
 - o Physics II
 - o Chemistry II
 - o Intro to Computer Science
- All majors must take 3 out of 5 of the above
- Five majors are required to take specific classes for all three courses. Other majors have a choice.

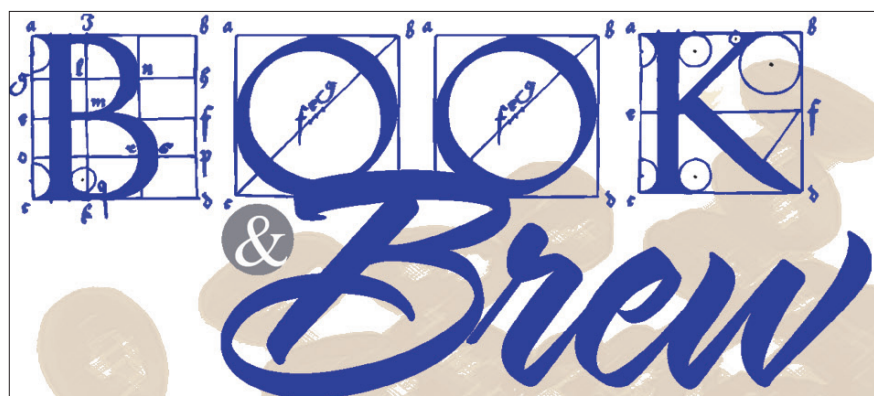
Track Meet: *All Sports Trophy*
Deadling: Thurs. 4/15 @5pm

Disk Golf Doubles
Deadling: Thurs. 4/29 @5pm



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Deadling: Thurs. 4/22 @5pm

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Scientific discoveries this week

Jake Rezac, Content Manager

Pasadena, CA: NASA's Spirit Rover has entered into its low-power hibernation mode in an attempt to recharge its batteries while on Mars. In this mode, all available energy is put into recharging its batteries, and the rover will not communicate with Earth for weeks or months. While the rover was initially designed to communicate for only 3 months, it has been operating since August 2004. The machine has started falling apart, and may not survive much longer.

Peru: Scientists have unearthed skeletons from an Incan cemetery, showing medieval Spaniards brutally murdered many Incans. The findings suggest the Spanish Conquistadors did not stab the Incans with swords but instead attacked them with guns, lances, and cannons. The Incans in the cemetery were likely killed in a 1536 uprising against Spanish rulers in a nearby village.

Geneva, Switzerland: The Large Hadron Collider (LHC) at CERN completed its first successful electron collision. After a number of mechanical problems delayed the use of the LHC, scientists were able to begin shooting 3.5 TeV electron volt beams in mid-March. However, not until last week did two beams collide, breaking a world record for collision-power. The LHC is operating at half-power, and will continue to do so until 2013 when it begins operating on full-power.

Altai Mountains, Central Asia: A fossil recently discovered in Central Asia indicates a previously unknown member of the human evolutionary family, hominid, existed. A team of scientists from the Max Planck Institute suggest that the newly-discovered group left Africa 1 million years ago and traveled to Asia. While the findings are promising, some scientists looking at the data suggest more evidence than DNA from a finger bone is needed to verify the find.

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Headlines from around the world

Emily Trudell, Staff Writer

The **Federal Aviation Administration** ended the ban on pilots flying while on antidepressant medications, as long as these pilots can show that they have been treated for at least one year. Moreover, the FAA is beginning a six-month amnesty period which allows pilots who are being treated for depression to step forward. The FAA has stated that these policy changes will increase safety because pilots will no longer have to fear penalties for getting treatment for depression.

A **United Nations** report on crime and drugs in Afghanistan said that the country is the world's largest producer of opium, as well as hashish, and is also a major producer of marijuana.

Staff members at **Jining Hospital** Affiliated Medical College in Eastern China have been disciplined after an investigation showed that the staffers had improperly disposed of 21 bodies of infants and fetuses by dumping them in a nearby river. Staffers working in the mortuary and in several other departments were found to have violated hospital policy, but no foul play is suspected in the deaths of the infants.

Yasar Armin, a presidential candidate in Sudan, has called for aboycott in parts of the country. He's argued that the election set to take place in next week are rigged by the incumbent, President Omar al-Bashir, and his party, the National Congress Party.

Israeli security forces announced plans to close the **West Bank** from Sunday to Tuesday, April 6, to prevent Palestinians from leaving occupied regions during the Jewish holiday of Passover. Those seeking medical attention, humanitarians, journalists, doctors, and some other groups will be permitted to cross into the area with Israeli government approval.

Ten youths aged 8 to 21 were gunned down in the **Mexican state of Durango**, when an gunman set up a fake checkpoint on the road and shot the victims. The children were coming home after going to pick up funds to support their local school, and were financed by a government pro-

gram.

Forty people were killed in two suicide attacks at **Russian metro stations** last Monday. Authorities publically identified one of the suicide bombers on the Moscow metro train as a girl born in 1992, named Dzhennet Abdullayeva. The two suicide bombs were detonated roughly forty minutes apart, both by female bombers.

Ali Hussain Sibat, a former host of a Lebanese television show in which Sibat would predict the future for his audience, was convicted of sorcery in a Saudi Arabian court and **sentenced to beheading** this Friday. The human rights organization International Amnesty has urged Saudi Arabia's king to stop the execution.



Local News

Mines has contracted with Jefferson County's Sheriff's Department to perform any required major repairs on the six-vehicle Mines police fleet, including electronics repairs and replacements. Day-to-day maintenance will still be done on-campus.

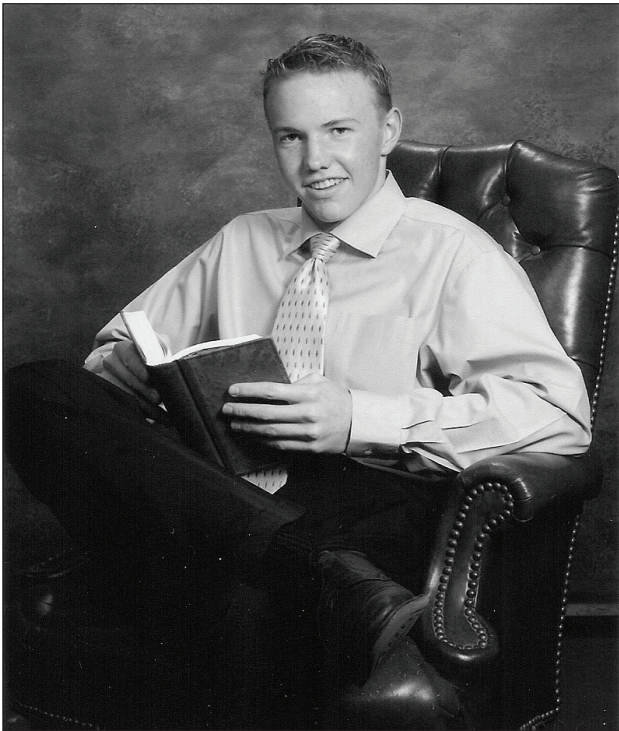
The Jefferson Economic Council, Jefferson County's economic development organization, gave Mines's 8th Continent Project the Economic Developer of the Year Award for its efforts in bringing aerospace business to the area.

The Jefferson Symphony Orchestra played its first concert under concertmaster Gwen Gravagno on March 28 in the Green Center. They received a standing ovation for the performance. The event, a Young Artist's Concert, featured Portland, Ore. based sixteen-year-old violin soloist Brandon Garbot.

MillerCoors will market a new craft beer, titled Batch 19, based on what appears to be a pre-Prohibition recipe unearthed by master brewer Keith Villa six years ago. Due to the large number of craft beers and microbrews in the Denver area the 5.5% ABV brew will not be offered here; the closest market is Chicago.

Student Body President

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Alec Westerman

Hometown: Greeley, Colorado
Current Class: Junior
Department: Computer Science
Campus Activities:

- ASCSM
- Oredigger
- M-ulators

Position Running for: President

Why are you running for this position?

I believe that it is the true best way that I can serve my classmates and my school.

Detail any other offices or positions that you have held on campus.

On ASCSM, I have served three and a half semesters as the At-Large Institutional Representative. The other half semester I served as a class representative. As the At-Large Representative, I am widely involved in student government. I am chairing the Into the Streets Committee and I am a board member of the Alumni Association. I am also a member of budget committee, parking garage committee, MLK Day committee, etc.

What makes you a standout person for this job?

Experience, leadership, dedication, and dreaming big.

What would you like to see ASCSM accomplish in the upcoming year?

I would like to see ASCSM set the precedent of finding the changes that students want to see in this campus and using innovative approaches to make those dreams reality rather than waiting for problems to arise. In the case that problems come up, I would like to see the council respond in a creative, united and energetic fashion.



Russell Quick

Hometown: Portland, Texas
Current Class: Sophomore
Department: Engineering
Campus Activities:

- ASCSM Sophomore Class President
- Residential Campus Committee
- Budget Committee
- Tech. Fee Committee

Position Running for: Student Body President

Why are you running for this position?

I have been with ASCSM for the past two years and I want to see ASCSM step up its game and cater more to the students. As president, I will be able to get more students involved with ASCSM and make sure their concerns are heard.

Detail any other offices or positions that you have held on campus.

Freshman:

- Class Representative
- RHA Treasurer
- Tech. Fee Committee Member

Sophomore:

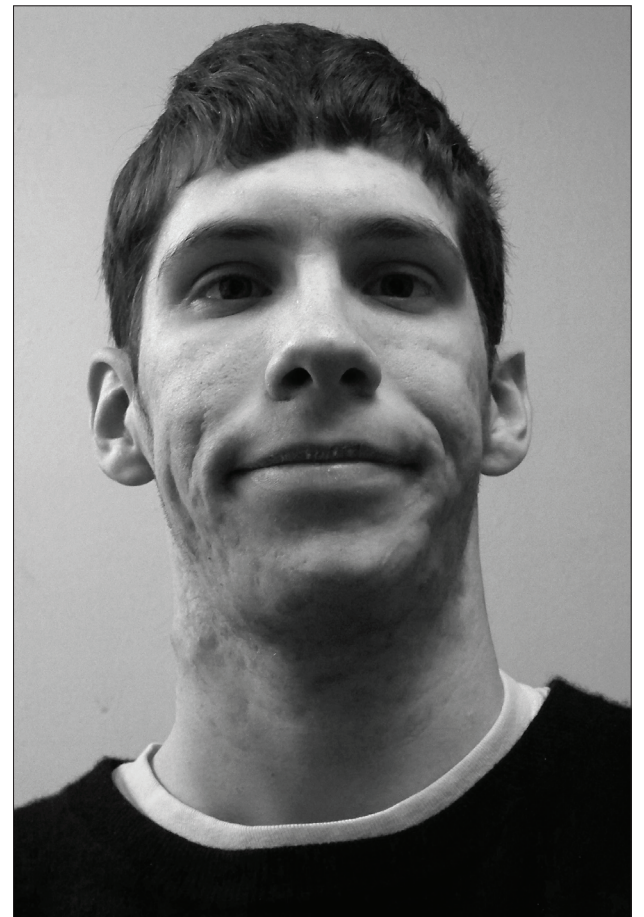
- Class President
- Budget Committee Member
- Residential Campus Committee Member
- Tech. Fee Committee Member
- Student Affairs Committee Member

What makes you a standout person for this job?

I am very involved with the campus, and I have been in ASCSM since the start of my Mines career. After serving as sophomore class president, I feel that I am ready to step up and be student body president.

What would you like to see ASCSM accomplish in the upcoming year?

I want to see ASCSM take a proactive stance on responding to students' needs rather than a defensive stance that just explains why something is done the way it is. I would also like to see more students at ASCSM meetings.



Ian Littman

Hometown: Fredericksburg, Texas
Current Class: Junior/Senior (Junior by year, Senior by credit)

Department: Computer Science, minor in Economics & Business

Campus activities: Campus Crusade for Christ, The Oredigger

Candidacy Position: Student Body President

Why are you running for this position?

It is my firm belief that ASCSM is not doing its job of effectively representing its constituents, communicating with them, and doing its job in an efficient and effective manner. I have made my concerns clear, however I feel that my opponents won't address these problems, and that I will.

Detail any other offices or positions that you have held on campus.

Offices/positions:

Mines Internet Radio - President (a few years ago)

The Oredigger - Assistant Business Manager, Web Content

ASCSM - Defeated narrowly for Freshman Class President (2007-2008) and Junior Class Treasurer (2009-2010)

What makes you a standout person for the job?

Starting next semester, my course load will be low enough to afford me plenty of time to hammer out solutions for problems that I see, or that are brought to my attention by the student body.

I'm not afraid of stepping on toes to get ASCSM's job done, yet I realize that two-way communication is required to fulfill ASCSM's position. I know how to do that.

What would you like to see ASCSM accomplish in the upcoming year?

1. Decrease average meeting times to 45 minutes, and increase full-meeting attendance to one percent of the student body, not counting ASCSM members. If I'm elected, food will be provided at ASCSM meetings. Probably bagels.

2. Create a website, then keep it completely comprehensive and up-to-date for the entire year, preferably longer.

3. Make ASCSM a big enough part of student life that, next year, every position is contested and voter turnout is at least 40% of the student population.

4. Solve the Ugrad-Stu e-mail problem, probably partially by making it a student-moderated list.

5. Move the ASCSM office to Student Center 107 (the office off Digger Den). It's centrally located, isn't behind closed doors, and will further facilitate ASCSM communication with its constituents.

See <http://ian.im/vote> for more information on my campaign.

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John Bristow

Hometown: Golden, Colorado
Current Class: Junior
Department: Geological Engineering
Campus Activities:
·ASCSM Parliamentarian
·Vice-President Mines Internet Radio
·Astronomy Club
·Phi Gamma Delta
Position Running for: Board of Trustees
Why are you running for this position?
I am running for the Board of Trustees representative so that I can help improve relationships between the Board of Trustees and the students and so that our voice does not get lost in this time of change in society.
Detail any other offices or positions that you have held on campus.
I currently serve as parliamentarian for ASCSM along with holding the joint position of vice-president and programming manager of Mines Internet Radio.
What makes you a standout person for this job?
I have been on ASCSM since I was a freshman and I am confident that I know the long-term issues that students on this campus will face in the upcoming year.
What would you like to see ASCSM accomplish in the upcoming year?
I would like ASCSM to find ways to retain students better so that we can keep school funding high as the state cuts more and more money from higher education and research.



Daniel Haughey

Hometown: Fort Collins, Colorado
Current Class: Junior
Department: Metallurgical and Materials Science Engineering
Campus Activities: MSEC, SWE, Board Game Club
Position Running for: Student Body Vice President
Why are you running for this position?
I am running for this position because I am really disappointed with the parking on campus and I feel this would be the best position to try and influence change.
Detail any other offices or positions that you have held on campus.
ASCSM Junior Class officer (did a poker night and there will be a 4-20 field day event), Diversity Committee Member, At-large Budget Committee Member, Into the Streets Committee Member (helped plan and run last event in January).
What makes you a standout person for this job?
I have always considered myself to be very hard working and dedicated. Once I set on my mind on something, I go all out to finish it. I believe that this will serve the students and campus greatly.
What would you like to see ASCSM accomplish in the upcoming year?
For the upcoming year I would like to see an overall increase participation with ASCSM meetings and trying to get a more direct link between ASCSM and the campus. With respect to the Vice President position, I would like to explore ways to ease the parking burden on campus.



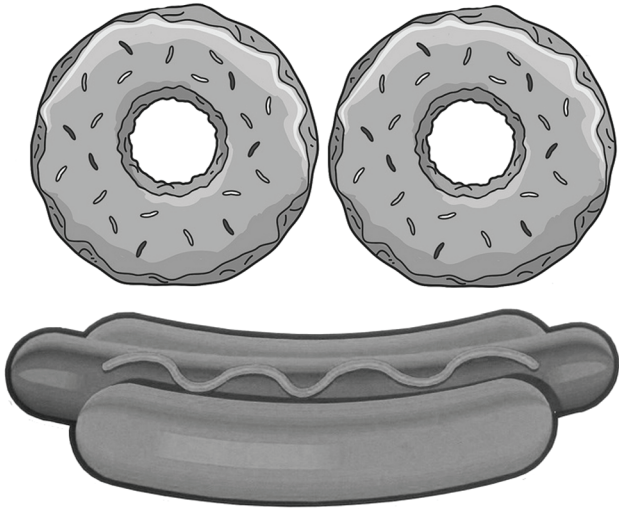
Lisa Truong

Hometown: Grand Junction, Colorado
Current class: Junior
Department: Engineering, Civil Specialty
Campus Activities:
* ASCE
* Marching band
* McBride Honor's Program
* MEP & PASES
* SWE
Position Running for: Student Body Vice President
Why are you running for this position?
Over the years, I have seen first-hand how critical student government can be in shaping policies at the Colorado School of Mines and interacting with the City of Golden. I look forward to representing the student body to the faculty, institution, and community in every facet. I will strive to constantly seek what is best for students.
Detail any other offices or positions that you have held on campus.
Currently, I am the secretary for PASES, the Professional Asian Society of Engineers and Scientists, the secretary for ASCE/AGC, the corporate communications director for SWE, and a student representative for McBride.
What makes you a standout person for this job?
ASCSM has become a high priority for me due to the issues that I have encountered while at Mines. During my freshmen and sophomore year, I served positions on ASCSM. I feel that with my experience in ASCSM, my varied campus involvement, and my dedication to the student body, I am highly-qualified to serve ASCSM as vice president.
What would you like to see ASCSM accomplish in the upcoming year?
I am hoping to improve dialogue and relations between CSM and the City of Golden. Additionally, I will work closely with Public Safety to develop more student parking, better signage, and a safer pedestrian crossing along 19th Street.

Additional candidates

At-Large Institutional Representative Tarryn Miller	Sophomore Class Treasurer Matthew McNew Andrea Switzer
At-Large Faculty Representative Jesse Earle	Senior Class Representative --VACANT--
Senior Class President Ben Seling	Junior Class Representative Robert Grumet Nicole Kostelecky Autumn Triesch
Junior Class President Andrew Bosela Hunter Dunham	Sophomore Class Representative Tyler Cooper Aaron Pfeifer Clifford Sanden Laura Schoenfeld
Sophomore Class President AJ Lasater	
Senior Class Treasurer --VACANT--	

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Geek of the Week

Dan Haughey
Staff Writer

...Keith Stevens, Junior: Petroleum Engineering

Oredigger: Do you consider yourself a geek?

Geek: No, I prefer the term nerd, because it makes me sound well rounded.

When did you come to this revelation?

I am probably a geek because I make the distinction, but in my opinion a geek is someone who is obsessive about one aspect of something. So you can be a band geek, you can be a computer geek, you can be a science fiction geek or you can be a fantasy geek. But with nerd, it is more like you have more knowledge about a lot of subjects that the common person doesn't have. Say I know more about computers than the normal person, I know more about books than a normal people, and I know more about music than normal people.

So you're just better than normal people?

That's pretty much what nerd means; better than normal people. One thing though, is nerds tend to get a bad rap for their social skills. We just have different kinds of social skills.

How did you come to be at Mines?

I put engineering on my PLAN test in my Sophomore year of high school, so somehow Mines got my name and mailed me letters with pictures of Mines in the fall, and Mines in the fall is the most beautiful time at Mines, so I was like "Oohh this

place is good looking." And I was looking to go out of state since I am from California, and I liked engineering, and I wanted to go to a smaller school. Smaller school, engineering, out of state so it was everything I needed.

What is your favorite geeky pick up line?

If you were a Dementor, I would become a criminal just to receive your kiss.

What is the geekiest thing you have seen or done?

I am wearing my homemade Harry Potter shirt for Slytherin. Me and my fiancé, my brother, and my friend went to the premiere this last summer and we all made our own shirts with the different letters representing each of the houses.

Why Slytherin?

Well I think I liked Slytherin and well, I picked it because the other people picked theirs, but I really like Snape.

What is your favorite geek joke?

I made this one up. How many geologists does it take to screw in a light bulb?

How many?

Doesn't really matter because when you're really over you don't want to turn the lights on. I could pick one or I could make one that just bashes geologists, and I pre-

fer doing that.

Star Wars or Star Trek? Why?

Star Wars. We watched both as a kid because my dad was an engineer. I like the Jedi aspect of it. It is like a world full of technology but it is not technology that drives the world. It's the people. It's like this thing that is very abstract and you don't quite understand. It doesn't give you all the answers. It lets your imagination play with it.

What are your hobbies?

Music, and playing my guitar, and I have a road bike. I played band in high school and I switched all my band time to my guitar. I also have a video blog that I do once a week.

What is the geekiest thing you own?

Lord of the Rings Middle Earth Atlas and I have the entire Lord of the Rings trilogy on compact disk as well. I am very diverse. That is why I think I am nerd not a geek. I mean Harry Potter, Lord of the Rings, some Star Trek music.

What has been your favorite class at Mines?

Probably Reservoir Rock Properties, PGGN 308. It's the, "Hello, welcome to the Petroleum Department." I really like Professor Graves. She is the department head, and she is a really interesting person and makes class really fun.

What aspects of the class do you like the most?

I like how lectures were exciting. It wasn't just class materials like, "Introduction into industry," and the labs covered a wide variety of material. Got to see everything in a very basic way.

What is your favorite piece of technology?

That I own, I would say my MacBook Pro. In general, I would say the interwebs. I would say the internet is more than technology. It is like an uncontrollable beast.

What is your favorite movie?

Favorite move is Shutter Island, it's like take Hitchcock and take today's visual effects.

What's your favorite Hitchcock?

North by Northwest.

What is your favorite book?

The Chosen by Chaim Potok. It is a Jewish coming of age story in Brooklyn. It's about two friends who come from two very different Jewish sects. I read it in high school, around the time I was

coming of age.

What clubs or activities are you involved in?

Society of Petroleum Engineers, American Association of Drilling Engineers (I am the webmaster for it), a Peer Mentor since Sophomore year, and next year I'll be a lead Peer Mentor. And last year I was on E-days committee. I am also ASCSM Junior Class President and I am accompanied by several very brilliant class officers.

Are you going to do any events in the future?

Yes, we doing Orestock on April 20 on Kafadar from 10:30 to 1:30. Fun games and free lunch!

Who is your role model and why?

I like to draw from the a lot of authors I read; I don't think I have just one, I look up to my teachers, I look up to video bloggers I watch, people I worked with last summer. I don't have one person in particular but I think I'll just end up being like my father. He's an engineer, works in the petroleum industry, very involved in church like I am.

What is your favorite OS? Why?

I like OSX. Though I work much better on a Windows computer. I like both, but they have different uses. Mac for play, Windows for work.

What is your favorite formula and why?

I like Darcy's law. It is used with reservoir

petroleum. This is the most basic one. I learned it in Rock Properties

If you were stuck on a deserted island and you could only bring 3 items, what would they be?

I would bring my fiancé, my knife, and my bible. The knife is good to build with, I'll be able to read the bible in my free time, and my fiancé will keep me company. But I imagine it will be like Swiss Family Robinson, where all the animals will be our servants.

If you were to come up with a class for CSM what would it be?

How not to go home on the weekends and be a lame-ass. Or rather, "How not to be an apathetic lame-ass."

If you could be anyone else, who would you be?

I would be Chris Martin from Coldplay.

What is one thing you love at Mines?

I like the size and the teachers a lot.

One thing you would like to see changed?

I would like to change the amount of apathetic male students. The ones who don't care and don't do anything to change it. They're the ones that you only see during finals.

Fraternities stand out at Mines

Courtesy Doug Morter

Ever wondered what the Greeks have been up to? In this article, you will find tales of philanthropic heroism, outstanding brotherhood, and academic strides. The Greeks are all about helping out the campus and the community while still having a good time. To start off, Andrew Hill from Sigma Phi Epsilon will talk about their accomplishments in academics and achieving chapter of the year.

Top grades on campus, an Excelsior Cup from National Sig Ep for excellence in recruitment, and CSM's Chapter of the Year. These are but a handful of the accomplishments earned by the Colorado Delta Chapter of Sigma Phi Epsilon recently. It has been a very busy semester and the members have been hard at work with academics, sports, philanthropy, and the betterment of the fraternity. The chapter would also like to thank all the alumni who contributed to the renovations on the chapter house.

There is a network of academic support and friendly competition within the fraternity. Sound Mind Chair Tate Nazarro has created an environment at SigEp that helps foster student learning. He has continuously organized study sessions, house study hours, a chapter test tracker, and provides weekly Sound Mind updates. It was this academic environment, as well as the efforts of each individual member, that enabled the chapter to achieve an overall 3.25 Grade Point Average, which is anything but average. SigEp was recognized as receiving top grades out of all organizations on campus.

Chapter manpower is on the rise at 30 members. The chapter recruited fifteen new members during fall rush and has added three new members through Spring rush. We continue to recruit throughout the semester. Not only are our numbers up, but the quality of each member far exceeds the norm. The chapter's four-year sound mind/sound body member development program, as well as its non-pledging non-hazing stance makes it the role model of the Greek organizations on campus. This combination of academic success, increased manpower, and the chapter's unique four-year member development program ended up earning SigEp Chapter of the Year awarded by the CSM Student Life Department. This is a feat that every member is very proud of and excited about.

SigEp also has several philanthropic events coming up in order to give back to the community. A committee is currently working hard to organize a golf scramble where a portion of the proceeds will go towards the YouthAIDS national charity. Additionally, every member is gathering sponsors for a 5k marathon. The money will be donated to the national SigEp Education Foundation.

It is a very exciting time to be a SigEp at the Colorado School of Mines. The chapter's hard work has paid off and the members now know what it feels like to be recognized as the top fratern-

nity on campus. That feeling gives each member the motivation to continue to push the boundaries of what the fraternity can accomplish. Thanks to these strong members of Sigma Phi Epsilon, it can rightly be said that this fraternity will be different.

Fiji's Gene Duran report of the happenings of their fraternity. In the last week of March the Gamma Kappa chapter of Fiji celebrated its 25th anniversary of being on the CSM campus! That weekend was the chapter's annual pig dinner (their 25th as well, imagine that). Pig Dinner is an event for grads and undergrads to interact. Notable grads that visited were Jeffery Epstein, first president in the chapter's history, and Viveck Chandra, second president and wrote the book on geophysics today. They partook in a softball game as well, with the grads beating the undergrads 26-5.

Sigma Nu has been active in the philanthropic and academic contributions. In 2009, Sigma Nu averaged nearly 32 hours per member, more than 50% greater than that required by the Greek Expectation and Reward program, Alpha. Sigma Nu was also one of two male fraternities to achieve the academic star in the rigorous requirements of the Alpha program for 2009. The Sigma Nu's are not all work and no play, but in the last weekend in March we had our formal in Estes Park which went over very well. During spring break a number of us went on a road trip to the west coast to visit chapter houses at seven universities including UC Berkeley, Stanford, Cal Poly, and UCLA. Those member's found it convenient to be in one of the top ten largest national fraternities. In the fall of 2009 Sigma Nu sponsored one of it's members, Andrew Gracey, to ride in the "Bike to Jack and Back" Bike MS presented by Jack Daniel's. This bike race raised money for multiple sclerosis research.

The Kappa Sigma's have been hard at work as well giving blood at times. On February 27, the adventurous Kappa Sigma's went out for brotherhood sledding. This was no sorority hill, mind you, as the outing occurred on the treacherous Saint Mary's Glacier. A BBQ followed and Alfred Packer was not invited. On March 6th, Kappa Sigma hosted a sanctioned Country Club party including catered food and a poker tournament. The event went over well and there was no damage to fire hydrants, trees, or black Esclades. The Kappa Sigma's are all about giving back to the community. In about three weeks, there will be a blood drive hosted by Kappa Sigma benefiting the Bonfil's Blood Center. Towards the end of the semester look for a Car Bash at the Pepsi Center with profits benefiting the Battered Woman's Shelter of Denver.

The other houses have been active as well and look in further editions for their updates. Finally, IFC (Interfraternity Council) is hosting Ice CreamE-day open to all on Thursday April 8, 11-1 PM on Kafadar. Come on out and hang with your friends to kick off E-Days!

Engineering days



2010

STEVEN WOOLDRIDGE / OREDIGGER

Roaring Tw It's th bee's k

E-Days Concert: Less than Jake

Before the formation of Less Than Jake, vocalist and guitarist Chris Demakes, drummer Vinnie Fiorello, and bassist Shaun Grief led a local band named Good Grief while attending high school in Port Charlotte, Florida. Good Grief broke up when Demakes moved north to attend the University of Florida at Gainesville. On July 13, 1992, what would become Less Than Jake was born. While Grief moved to New York City (he would later return as the band's roadie), Demakes and Fiorello began writing songs on the weekends before Fiorello would join Demakes at the University of Florida. When united, the pair decided they needed a bass player, but first, they wanted a name. Fiorello said: "We decided before we tried to get a bass player we'd zero in on a name for the 'band' - to either (A) - make it seem like we had our shit together or (B) - make ourselves feel better. I think it was (B) or maybe it was just so I could write it over and over again on notebook paper during my anthropology class."

The band's name comes from Fiorello's dog, Jake, who was treated better than the rest of the

household, so everything was "less than Jake."

In the sixteen years since its inception at the University of Florida, Less Than Jake has steadily evolved by always sticking to its musical ideals without being hampered by the influence of emerging trends or record company pressure. After spending time in both the indie ranks and with many majors, the band recently emancipated itself from label life all together to form Sleep It Off Records, in turn hitting the studio with producer Matt Allison (Rise Against, Alkaline Trio). The end result is the ambitious and ultimately infectious GNV FLA (pronounced 'Gainesville, Florida'), sure to connect with its extremely loyal fan base, while enticing new audiences thanks to a deft blend of alternative artfulness and accessibility.

"Obviously to people who've been following us for awhile, the title is a tribute to our roots in Gainesville, but others might not have any idea, which makes it a little cryptic," offers Vinnie with a laugh. "We did that on purpose to kind of use those six letters as a metaphor, because if you look at

the entire record lyrically, it's about chasing something better- though not necessarily better in a good or bad way. Take for instance 'FLA,' which used to be the abbreviation for Florida, but has since been changed. There's an example of taking something that's working perfectly fine and becoming something new even if you don't need it! So thematically, it's about chasing that shiny penny around or the fact that people find themselves chasing something they may not even need or want."

"When we first started out, we built a foundation on the love of playing music, which a lot of people don't," asserts Vinnie. "Then after we started gaining momentum, we took baby steps and always made sure the foundation stayed very solid. When you build a house on sand, it's going to fall f---ing fast and we took time in LTJ's early days to make it strong. Plus we're all good friends who are basically like brothers and there's still a certain chemistry between us when we play."



PHOTOS COURTESY LESS THAN JAKE

CHRIS D'ELIA

Chris D'Elia began standup comedy at the age of 16. He is east coast born and west coast raised, starting out in Los Angeles doing standup comedy wherever he could. He performs regularly at Hollywood clubs using physical humor to entertain hundreds.

Chris's acting background has allowed him to guest star on several television shows including Monk and Boston Legal. Chris has toured with other famous comedians like Jo Koy as well as opened for Carlos Mencia. He can



Chris D

ventE-Days

he nees!

Field events

Tesla coil demonstration

The CSM chapter of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) is sponsoring a demonstration from the depths of 1920's Mad Science! Invented by Serbian engineer Nikola Tesla and refined here in Colorado, the Magnifying Transmitter (better known as the Tesla Coil) creates artificial lightning to transmit power wirelessly. We will have the honor of seeing two of these coils in action, used to create sparks over a foot long, remotely electrify a light bulb, create a spinning Jacob's ladder, and more! Come join us on Friday, April 9th at 2:00 pm in Metal's Hall as an opener to the Bonk! gameshow.

Pi race

Do you like Pi? Alpha Phi Omega is hosting the second annual Pi Run Relay Race, and this year's event is going to be bigger and better than ever. Teams of three are going to race across campus completing various tasks revolving around the number pi all while carrying a pie. This year the race will be tournament style, where the winner of each heat moves on to the final round. The fastest three teams from the final round will receive prizes. Team registrations start at 12:30 pm on the North IM field during the field events on Saturday and the race will begin at 1:30 pm.

Soap box derby race

If you don't like water or throwing milk jugs, build a boxcar and go for speed! Races will be held during the field events on Saturday and it's sure to be a great time. To register or find out more information go to The Society of Physics Student's website at <http://organizations.mines.edu/sps/> and click on the "Soap Box Derby Documentation" link. Sponsored by SPS.

Casino and dance night

Come celebrate the start of E-Days with an amazing night of dancing, gambling (for free), and refresh-

ments, sponsored by the Residence Hall Association (RHA). There will be a live jazz band called After Midnight (check them out at www.aftermidnightjazzband.com). Thousands of dollars in prizes will be up for grabs, simply come to Friedhoff Hall, get your starting money and play at one of our blackjack tables, craps tables or at the roulette table, to win more money which can be exchanged for raffle tickets.

Swing all night long in Freidhoff Hall April 8th at 8:30 pm after the comedians.

Bonk

Bonk is a comedy game show that is part general knowledge, part physical mayhem and all comedy! Put on your hard hat and test your trivia knowledge – without the wimpy buzzers. You get to "bonk" your hard hats and other people's hard hats instead. Even if you're not on the spotlight, you'll have front row seats to watch your peers hit each other on the hard hat and have a great laugh for the afternoon.

So, come and participate in the hilarious game show and win awesome prizes! There will be refreshments and drinks provided after the show.

So show up in Bunker April 9th following the Tesla coil demonstration at 2 PM.

Auto Show

Bonk is a comedy game show that is part general knowledge, part physical mayhem and all comedy! Put on your hard hat and test your trivia knowledge – without the wimpy buzzers. You get to "bonk" your hard hats and other people's hard hats instead. Even if you're not on the spotlight, you'll have front row seats to watch your peers hit each other on the hard hat and have a great laugh for the afternoon.

So, come and participate in the hilarious game show and win awesome prizes! There will be refreshments and drinks

provided after the show.

So show up in Bunker April 9th following the Tesla coil demonstration at 2 PM.

Cardboard cance race

Do you like cardboard and running water? Build a cardboard boat and race it down clear creek with your friends! If you have any arch-enemies, convince them to do the same. Or, just come down to check out the fun and see why this has become one of the most popular events on campus and in the community around it.

Maybe you want to know more about the race. The first heat has two or three teams taking off down the creek at a time. This way the crowd gets excited about all the possibilities! Who is the fastest? Will there be any collisions? They don't know...yet. If you construct a quality boat and/or win the heat, you can participate in the second heat where you will race all the other victors for a chance at Ultimate Glory. Later, there will be some "just for fun" race time as well.

Judging starts at 10:00 am, April 10th and races start at 11:00 am along Clear Creek.

Trebuchet contest

Flying milk jug mayhem! The annual trebuchet contest is back! This year the CSM chapter of the Tau Beta Pi Engineering Honor Society is hosting this E-Day's bout of catapult craziness. The competition will be held on the IM fields on Saturday, April 10th from 12:00 to 3:00 pm. Come and participate or even just watch the medieval madness as we see who can launch milk jugs the farthest.



PATRICK BESEDA / OREDIGGER

AND KYLE DUNNIGAN

be seen on Showtime's new series Live Nude Comedy and Comedy Central's Live at Gotham.

Kyle Dunnigan is a standup comedian and actor, best known for his role as Craig aka The Truckee River Killer in the hit Comedy Central series Reno 911!. As a

'Elia

standup, he has had his own half hour special on Comedy Central. He was a series regular on NBC's Howie Do It as well as FOX's Cedric The Entertainer Presents. He also has a significant online presence which includes his viral video Craig

Vs Wild that boasts over two million hits on multiple platforms. He is an alumnus of the Groundlings Sunday Company and holds a BFA in theatre from the University of Connecticut. Kyle can currently be seen as a correspondent on The Jay Leno Show. If you don't enjoy Kyle live, there might be something wrong with you.



Kyle Dunnigan

PHOTOS COURTESY OF CHRIS D'ELIA AND KYLE DUNNIGAN

STEVEN WOOLDRIDGE / OREDIGGER

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Thursday, April 8

7:00 - 8:30 pm	Comedians	Bunker Auditorium
8:30 pm - midnight	Casino Night/Dance	Friedhoff Hall, GC

Friday, April 9

8:00 - 1:00 pm	Ore-cart Pull	Meet at IM Field
2:00 - 4:00 pm	Tesla Coil Demonstration “Bonk” Game Show	Metals Hall, GC Bunker Auditorium, GC
7:00 pm	Concert: Less Than Jake	Steinhauer Fieldhouse
	Opening band: Passafire (doors open at 6:15)	

Saturday, April 10

10:00 am	Cardboard Boat Race Judging starts at 10:00 am, race starts at 11:00 am	Clear Creek
11:00 am	SAE Car Show	CTLM Lot
Noon - 3:00 pm (Rain site: Fieldhouse)	Field Events	North IM Field
Mining competition, trebuchet, boxcar derby, Mr. Big Digger, BBQ, burrow races, petting zoo, carnival, etc		
4:00 - 9:00 pm	International Party	Ballrooms A & B
9:00 - 9:30 pm	Fireworks Show	North IM Field
9:30 pm - ??	Bonfire	Lot D (by IM Fields)

Housing with economics

Trevor Crane
Staff Writer

While many lecturers and professors at Mines say they are here to change lives, few have as much evidence to support their claim as economics lecturer, Scott Houser. Helping and teaching people of all situations, Houser truly cares for the well-being of those around him.

Husband and father of two, Houser is originally from Pueblo, Colorado. For college, he headed off to Colorado State to become an engineer. But after three semesters of core classes and engineering curriculum, he realized that his "mind [did not] work like an engineer's." Houser began taking economics classes and found the questions interesting and important. "They were questions like, 'How do we meet our basic needs?' 'Why are some people rich and some people poor?' 'Why are some countries rich and some countries poor?' And economics seeks answers to these problems."

When most students finish their undergraduate studies, they typically either enter the workforce or

go on to further schooling in graduate school. Professor Houser chose differently. Along with a couple of friends, he moved back to Pueblo and opened up a homeless shelter for the needy. "We were young, sheltered, and idealistic," remembered Houser. They would house around 50 people in church basements and offer them services such as job training, family assistance, and adult education. "It sounds so cliché, but the most rewarding thing I have done is work [at the shelter]. I got more out of it than I gave." His shelter, one of many initiated by President Bush Sr., is still in operation today to help Pueblo's poor.

After six years of working at the shelter, Houser returned to school at the University of Wisconsin to obtain his Ph.D. in economics. From there he has been teaching, first at Fresno State and then Colorado State. Over the years he has been "dabbling" in economics, including small projects concerning research on how tax policy affects low income families.

In his third year at Mines, his main focus is on teaching and specifically improving the economics curriculum. "I like helping students find a different way to look at a problem. Economics is a way of

thinking about those problems." Houser also continues research in economics when he is able and is a faculty member for The Navigators on campus. As for his other hobbies and interests, "I, like every other faculty member says, like hiking and camping and that kind of thing. My wife and I grew up in Colorado, so Colorado is home."

Even though he has only been teaching here for a short time, Houser enjoys the school and what it offers. A professor with experience in larger schools, he has come to appreciate the small size of Mines and the campus wide community that it creates. "There's so many of the same core classes and same people in those classes," he commented, "and the students are great and quality is great too."

In college, Professor Houser envisioned himself winning the Nobel Prize in economics. "I'm still waiting for my Nobel Prize," he later said with a smile. But he will probably agree that his work over the years will be just as worthwhile as a polished prize. His impact on lives will continue to be felt as he is already looking to get back to work in homeless shelters.

Why buy it?

Alan Downey
Staff Writer

Whether it was building a birdhouse, doing volunteer work, or doing something else, I would imagine that everybody has picked up a hammer and put something together before. I grew up building things, and getting a huge sense of satisfaction from completing those projects. But it seems that as we as a society grow up and get older, the satisfaction from doing things by ourselves leaves, and is replaced by a sense of fulfillment of buying something new. But we are really losing in the end, if we just buy something that we need, or replace what's not working right.

It really does not take much effort to save yourself some money. Maybe the stitching on a pair of jeans is coming undone. Why not just buy a needle and some thread, and spend a few minutes fixing them, rather than spending an hour and way more money to go buy a new pair? Admittedly, if you have never sewn anything before, it might seem a little intimidating, but great websites like Instructables.com have step by step how-to's to get you headed in the right direction. Your repair job won't make your pants look brand new, but they will look a lot better and give you some more useful time out of them.

Just because a company puts something in a shiny box without screws doesn't mean you cannot take it apart and make it work again, and your iPod is no exception. Hopefully, you've taken good enough care of your iPod so that it is way past the end of its warranty, but that does not mean Apple needs to charge you out the wazoo for a new battery when yours cannot hold a charge anymore. Even for things like that, there are kits available, and video instructions online. Why not just spend \$15 for a new battery for you iPod?

In my opinion, though, the best feeling comes when you choose to start from scratch, and build some-

thing instead of buying it in a store. My father instilled this in me from a young age. As I watched him build two wooden sailboats in our woodshop at home. I have many great memories of being out on Lake Travis in Austin, Texas, sailing on the boat that my dad had built, seeing how happy my father was to be in that boat.

Inspired by the snow, my love for the outdoors, and my father's pair of wooden cross country skis, which he had purchased as a teenager, he and I set out to build our own wooden cross country skis over the winter break. It sounded like quite the challenge, but when we broke the process down to what it would really take, it was actually a lot easier than it first seemed. That is arguably what keeps many of us from taking on tasks like repairs and construction, because there is the feeling of, "Where do I start?" But once you sit down and think about where you are and where you need to get to, the hurdles get a lot smaller, and a lot more manageable. In the end, after just a couple weeks of working a few hours a day, we had a set of perfectly usable cross country skis that looked fantastic.

I used those skis with my father over spring break, in nordic centers, and on back-country trails. And the feeling was awesome. Being outdoors, in 6 inches of fresh powdery snow, and having the ski tips poke out from underneath the snow and flash our logo was one of the best feelings in the world. I was moving, exploring, and experiencing nature on skis which I had made with my own two hands. And so I challenge anybody who reads this, the next time something of yours stops working or the next time you need something new, stop and think for a minute. Is there some way to fix it or build it yourself. However, maybe only if it is not something that you have done before. I guarantee you that the successes now and in the future will be extremely gratifying.

ALAN DOWNEY / OREDIGGER



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TECH BREAK

Pick a PC, any PC

Ian Littman, Tech Break Columnist

If you have used computer lab PCs at Mines, you know that there are some applications that are not quite up-to-date on them, or that just are not there. It is not such a big deal if you have a laptop computer that you take to class anyway, but if you do not have that luxury and are trying to open an Acrobat file in your web browser on a CCIT-administered machine, be prepared for things not to work. The big issue here is that, without administrative access to your system (granted, for very good reasons), you cannot fix the problem by updating Adobe Acrobat to a version that is not a few releases out of date.

Of course, you could try workarounds like loading the PDF into Google Documents, or saving the PDF and opening it from within Adobe Reader, hoping that it will not crash, too. However, there is an easier solution, which makes even more sense if you are carrying files around on a flash drive: PortableApps.

Found at PortableApps.com, the PortableApps suite gets you everything from IM (Miranda, Pidgin, aMSN, and even Skype) to web browsing (Firefox, Chrome,

or SeaMonkey) to image editing (The GIMP)... and, yes, PDF reading (Foxit Reader or Sumatra), in a format that will not freak out when you transfer program files from one computer to another, usually on a flash drive. If you want to run a web server on your host system, you can do that too; XAMPP comes in a PortableApps flavor and, as the acronym suggests, supports the same MySQL, PHP, and Python applications that you can find on a typical web host. If you just want to play games, twelve are available in PortableApps format.

PortableApps also offers a gold mine of utilities, including encryption (Toucan), compression (7-zip), antivirus (ClamWin), screenshot creation (Lightscreen), and even a portable version of Java.

One rather useful portable application is VLC Media Player Portable; it will play exotic video and audio formats that QuickTime, iTunes, and Windows Media Player combined still will not touch, including DVDs.

Other "portable application" infrastructures exist for flash drives; Sandisk uses a technology called U3, for example. However, Portable-

Apps works on any reasonably large flash drive (a gigabyte is a good idea if you want to load on lots of applications and still have room for some data), which U3 doesn't do. It also has a wider selection of applications available, and from what I have seen, is a less intrusive system.

One thing to note about any portable application system is that you want a reasonably fast flash drive to use it with, both in access time and raw speed. Though PortableApps versions of Firefox (and anything else) steer clear of registry changes and on-host temporary files, they are still essentially the same programs you would find on a system after installing them the normal way. This means that, to get running, an application must first load a fair amount of smallish library and support files (DLLs and the like), which take time if your storage medium is not quick on the draw. That said, if your flash drive has a name brand on it, chances are it will work fine with PortableApps.

So the next time you sit down at an ADIT machine, do not fall victim to a crashy Acrobat reader or an out-of-date version of Firefox. Bring your own alternative.



Rockies look poised to take west

Sam Schleisman
Staff Writer

After a magical late season charge by the Rockies in '09 to take the NL Wildcard, they look to improve on last year and beat out the Dodgers for the division. In Jim Tracy's first full year with the team the Rockies look to return to Rocktober, this time with a division championship.

The team did not make any big offseason moves, but will plan on making use of their young power hitters, solid core of starting pitchers, and reliable bullpen. Shortstop Troy Tulowitzki will be a force on offense and Ubaldo Jimenez will head the pitching staff. If the Rockies do win the West and Tulo has another big year, he may find himself in the MVP discussion at the end of the year.

Jimenez, entering his third full year in the majors, is starting to be mentioned with the league's best. If he stays healthy, Jimenez could take yet another step this year in proving he is one of the best in the National League.

A few things to keep an eye on during the course of the year: how will Franklin Morales do in the closer role, can Jeff Francis return to the 17-9 pitcher he was in 2007, and will Chris Iannetta be able to rebound from a disappointing season after being handed the everyday catcher position?

Houston Street will start the year on the disabled list. Although it does not seem serious, Morales will still be forced to be the team's Closer for a short while. After last year, the Rockies know the importance of a fast start, which could come down to Morales' ability to close games.

Francis will also start the year on the DL. After a solid spring warranted him the number two spot in the Rockies rotation, this is a bit of a disappointment. The question re-

mains of whether or not Francis will be able to make an impact once he returns to the rotation.

The Rockies lost last year's starting catcher, Yorvit Torrealba, to division rival San Diego in the offseason. Iannetta, who will replace him, will turn 27 on April 8 and has all the tools to be a dependable backstop and contributing bat in the bottom of the Rockies lineup. If he can produce, and there were times last year when it seemed like he could, it might put the Rockies over the hump in the division.

As usual, the NL West looks to be one of the most competitive divisions in baseball. While it seems like the Rockies have the inside track to a pennant, only time will tell if they can live up to their promise.

[The Rockies] look to improve on last year and beat out the Dodgers for the division. In Jim Tracy's first full year with the team the Rockies look to return to Rocktober, this time with a division championship.

ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

... LIBBY BALOGH, JUNIOR: SOFTBALL TEAM

Trevor Crane
Staff Writer

Elizabeth "Libby" Balogh is relatively new to the Colorado School of Mines, this being the junior's second semester at the school. Nevertheless, she has wasted no time in making her mark. Balogh transferred from Metro State University in the fall to earn a degree in economics, but her talents soar past the classroom. A pitcher for the women's softball team at Mines, Balogh has become a solid veteran on a young team and is helping the Orediggers' in their pursuit of the RMAC championship crown. During a three-game span, she registered one earned run along with 25 strikeouts all while holding opponents to a .171 batting average. Her dominating performances have the Orediggers riding a six-game winning streak and earned Balogh the RMAC/Rawlings pitcher of the week honors for the week of March 23. For her success this week and throughout the year, Balogh is this week's Oredigger Athlete of the Week.

How did you end up coming

to Mines?

This is actually my first year at Mines. I went to Metro before and I didn't really enjoy it. It lacked the typical college feel and I wanted to push myself academically.

And Mines is more of a typical college?

Well, yeah actually. I like how small it is. I like that I notice and recognize people on campus, which is not what I had at Metro.

In your view, what is the hardest part about being a student-athlete at Mines?

It's hard balancing things, like getting homework done, going to practice, and having a difficult schedule. You have to be flexible.

What is your schedule like?

My weekends are full. Two days a week we lift in addition to practicing Tuesday through Friday. But we get Mondays off, which is nice.

If you could change one thing at Mines, what would it be?

I don't know. I'm not exactly in love with physics. I guess I would get rid of it for economics majors.

How did you get started in softball?

It was my parents who put me

in it. It was the only sport they knew the rules to, and I've been playing since I was twelve.

Most embarrassing softball moment?

One time in high school, I thought the catcher was throwing out to second base, like to catch someone stealing, so I ducked to get out of the way. But she was actually throwing it back to me and the ball ended up hitting me right in the face.

Wow. What's your best softball memory so far?

I've had a lot of good memories. I would have to say the two UCCS games. Those were probably the best games we've had. And it's particularly fun to beat that team.

What games are you looking forward to playing in this year?

Well, I'm excited for all the games, but I guess I'm definitely looking forward to playing against Metro.

What do you enjoy about being a part of the Mines softball team?

I love playing with the girls. It's nice have a team around you and having that interaction with them.



STEVEN WOOLDRIDGE / OREDIGGER

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Recapping madness

Trevor Crane
Staff Writer

This year, the NCAA men's basketball tournament has shown its madness in March once again. So mad, in fact, that Buffalo Wild Wings shows fans how to create a bottle opener by folding a busted bracket. It was a year where UCLA and North Carolina did not even crack into the tournament, the number 1 seed overall did not reach the Sweet 16, and someone named Ali Farokhmanesh became a household name. But do not be disheartened if most of your bracket is crossed out. The odds of correctly guessing the entire tournament are 1 in 35,360,000,000. And since here at Mines, we are slightly obsessed with math like this, here is a look at the rest of the 2010 Final Four by the numbers:

13 – Unlucky? Not this time, for the underdogs. 13 is the sum of the four seeds (1 (Duke) + 2 (West Virginia) + 5 (Michigan State) + 5 (Butler)). Other than 2006's total of 20 when number 11 George Mason cracked the top four, you have to go back to 1986 for a greater combined ranking.

0 – times a number 5 seed has won the NCAA championship. With Butler defeating Michigan State on Saturday, the bulldogs have a chance to break that trend

5 – Total combined championships won by this year's final four. Duke (3), Michigan State (2), West Virginia (0) and Butler (0).

20 – Total combined championships by 2008's final four teams.

6 – Number of miles Butler will travel from their campus to Lucas Oil Stadium, site of the Final Four.

600 – Comparatively, Duke will travel over 600 miles from Durham, North Carolina to Indianapolis.

0 – combined final four appearances for Butler and West Virginia in 72 years of tournament history. They now have 2 after one day of basketball.

7'1" – The height of Duke's Brian Zoubek, the tallest player in the Final Four.

14 – At 14 inches shorter than Zoubek, Korie Lucious of Michigan State is the smallest player, at 5'11".

4.78 million – Brackets filled out on ESPN's bracket challenge.

0 – Brackets that were correct.

Softball starts season strong

Trevor Crane
Staff Writer

Here, at an academically-rigorous school, athletics at Mines often get overlooked. But strong performances all around this year are beginning to change that, and the women's softball team is no exception. For most students, spring usually means a week-long tanning vacation with summer crawling up just around the corner. But spring means hard work and practice for the softball team. They are in the midst of a six-game winning streak with a bright future.

The Orediggers are currently 11-10 (7-5 RMAC) and are looking for more success. "Our goal is definitely to compete to win the RMAC and make it to post-season," said pitcher Libby Balogh. "But we look at the little goals, little goals to get the big ones."

This mentality has given them victories as of late. Mines was picked to finish fifth overall in the RMAC and third in the east division in the preseason poll. Their current record, aided by the recent spurt, has them sitting in second in the east, behind 8th ranked Metro State. But the Orediggers have proven that these ranking do not bother them, evident in solid victories that included a 7-5 win over 12th-ranked Nebraska-Omaha

and a 10-0 handling of 4th-ranked Dixie State.

Mines is a relatively young team this year, with multiple freshmen playing large roles. But Balogh explains that, "[This] hasn't held us back. We're still able to compete with the best in the RMAC." But a young team needs to rely on experienced players. Balogh is joined by standout senior Kaleigh Starr. Starr leads the hitting for Mines and has been unanimously named to the preseason All-RMAC team. In the 2009 season, Starr broke the school record in runs scored (67) and stolen bases (19). She has also been a solid contributor in nearly every other hitting category, earning Honorable Mention All-American honors. This season she already has 8 stolen bases and four home runs, and the team is not even halfway through their schedule.

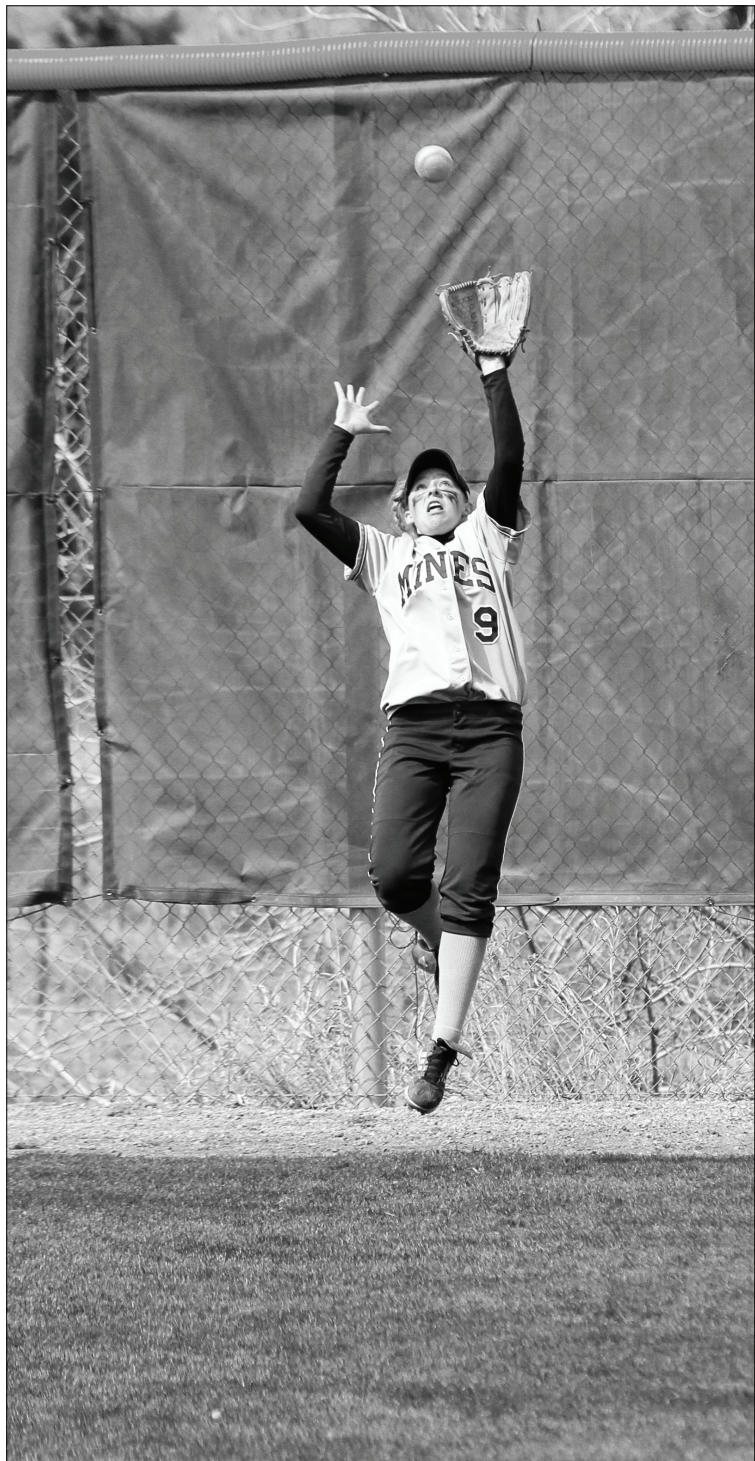
The team headed down to Pueblo over the weekend for a series with Adams State and returns to host Metro State in four key games in the RMAC east division starting Tuesday. With involved coaches and a blend of youth and experience, it will be interesting to see how far the team can advance this year. And with only one senior (Starr) graduating, the coming years look to be even more promising.



Above, Allysia Cisneros (#5) barely beats the throw to first. Allysia singled early in the first inning during Saturday's game versus Metro State.



Above, Sarah Van Lingen (#3) waits for the throw when Metro State attempted to steal second during the fourth inning.



Above, Macy Jones (#9) makes a spectacular catch in center field to get the first out of the third inning.



Above, Allysia Cisneros (#5) sprints to home during the first inning with 2 outs. Metro state made the out at first base to end the inning.

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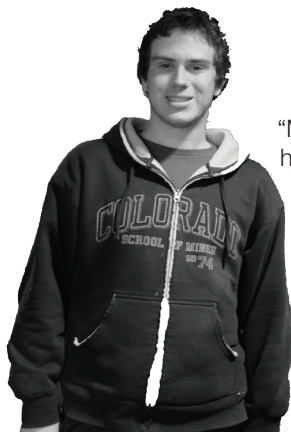


Minds at Mines

Waiting for E-days to arrive

Roby Brost
Staff Writer

E-days is right around the corner. That means that the orecart pull, trebuchet contest, cardboard boat race, carnivals, concerts, comedians, and, of course, the fireworks, are just around the corner. With so much to look forward to, it is going to take a heroic amount of effort to remember that there is still class time between now and the much-vaunted event. It is like the week before Christmas. Lets face it: Choosing events to take part in over E-days is far more fun than studying for exams, attending class, and completing homework assignments. It will be hard. But who better to undertake this herculean task than super heroes? Did Daredevil's blindness stop him from defeating King Pin? Did Wolverine let the fact that he was smaller than Sabertooth slow him down? How about Hal Jordan, unmasking his mentor and having to deal with imperfections within his own organization previously believed to be perfect, while trying to succeed in banishing the man that began to teach him? For that matter how about Sinestro? Trying to advocate for what he believed to be right, while betrayed by his own student? Even Hercules, not a superhero but a demigod, had to do stuff that was hard, like win over a three headed dog. The point is, all these superheroes accomplished terrific feats while hampered by obstacles. Here on the Mines campus, it's good to know that there are role models for the heroic task of waiting for E-days.



"My favorite superhero is Batman because he actually doesn't have any superpowers. He has a lot of money, but he has to do it all on his own, through his own abilities. He doesn't have any crazy, off the wall powers. More a regular guy."

Michael Vadman

"Wonder Woman. She's the best super hero. Who else can pull off that outfit? Plus, she has a lasso."

Cam



"My favorite hero is probably the Pirate Hunter Zorro from Onepiece. One, he can drink a lot and two, he has three swords. Not Zorro from the mask of Zorro, but from Manga."

Nate Schmidt

"My favorite hero? Catwoman. Because Halle Berry is hot."

Dave B.



Tim's two cents

Consider the candidates

Tim Weilert
Content Manager

ASCSM elections are upon us once again. If you've read through this issue of the newspaper you have undoubtedly seen the candidate profiles and campaign promises. First and foremost, pay attention to what each person is promising and don't forget those promises after the thrill of voting has ended.

In one of my recent editorials I criticized the student government for not following through on their own publicly-stated goals and promises. This week we're being given an opportunity to choose new leaders, a fresh take on policy and representation.

What does representing a CSM student look like? I believe that any person who seeks to represent me should have a strong sense of duty, both socially and academically. Furthermore, should it be required, a leader should go above the call of duty to get the job done.

As a technical aside, the Executive Council should be familiar with proper procedure and be able to effectively work with feedback (both positive and negative). Hopefully this will lead to better ASCSM meetings that people will actually want to attend.

To close this article I would like to make a public endorsement. Alec Westerman is running for President and I believe he is

the best fit for the job. Of all the people who are currently a part of ASCSM, Westerman embodies most of the leadership principles I outlined above.

Over the course of the last two years he has served as At Large Institutional Representative. During this time he has been notably dutiful, even taking on extra work (outside of his own job description) when it was necessary. When I wrote that criticism of ASCSM a couple months ago, Westerman was one of the few people in the group to actually seek input on how to improve meetings. For these reasons (and many more) I officially endorse Alec Westerman for the position of President of ASCSM.

Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,

This week we have the opportunity to vote for the president of ASCSM for 2010-2011. It is frequently a matter of choosing between two or three people that are willing and able to do a lot of talking, but haven't had much practice doing. This is not malicious – the nature of ASCSM's position on campus confines the president to a narrow role unless he is willing to actively move outside of this role and into a wider arena.

In the years that I have been at Mines, we have had presidents that have done this and we have had presidents that have not. This year we have the chance to vote for someone who will, I believe, work to make ASCSM more efficient, more productive, and more representative.

Ian Littman has, in the years I had the distinct pleasure of working with him, never been afraid to volunteer for something outside of his job description or expertise if it meant that it would get done. He shows more initiative on a daily basis than anyone I have ever met and cares more about efficiency and openness than ASCSM possibly ever has.

There is no doubt in my mind that Ian is capable of working with both the details of making ASCSM more accessible and accountable to the student body and with the larger issues of ASCSM's relationship with the administration and the Golden community.

Please join me in voting for Ian Littman for ASCSM President.
Sara Post

Dear Editor,

As student government elections are going on, I thought it might help, when making that decision, to have an idea of some of the more important issues that ASCSM will likely face next year.

What may be the largest, is the number of students on campus. In order to bring in the necessary revenue, the size of the incoming class has again been increased despite well known and wide spread concerns that the campus is overcrowded already.

Another issue is parking. Because of the new parking restrictions in the neighborhoods around campus and a larger group of incoming students, changes are in the works. Over the summer, the parking capacity of the campus will be expanded. Presently, a restructuring of the parking permit system is being considered. Next year, ASCSM will need to convey the concerns of students that result.

The new parking restrictions in the neighborhoods around campus have also exposed another issue.

We as students need to forge a stronger relationship with our community. The present direction of ASCSM involves pushing for more students to register to vote in Jefferson county so that our interests are not underrepresented by our lack of votes. It also involves a conscious effort to maintain good lines of communication with the local government through which we can express our concerns on future matters.

As the campus engages in a large construction push, ASCSM will be responsible for ensuring student opinion is expressed on relevant committees.

As the effects of changes to the core curriculum and to the grading policy are felt, it will fall to student government to convey whatever concerns there may be to the Faculty Senate.

There are also the typical annual matters. There will undoubtedly be concerns expressed about Aramark. Some matter at the registrars office will likely occur and again draw complaints. If RTD increases their rates above inflation, the council will have to draft the wording of a vote that will go before students as to whether they want the fee increase.

It should be a busy year, a year in which ASCSM has a chance to make a difference.

Sincerely,
Alec Westerman

Dear Editor,

With elections for the student government looming over the week, I believe it is worthwhile to reflect upon the challenges our student body has faced over the past few

years.

From the battle over plus-minus grading to the irreverent assault on parking by Golden residents, our student body has faced constricting forces that will continue to shape the fabric of our academic and social lives.

In both the aforementioned situations, the collective voice of the student body was subdued and our interests were left unprotected. While our representatives attempted to fulfill their duties, most lacked the leadership and experience to work through the bureaucratic labyrinths of our institution and city.

Unfortunately, there is little reason to believe the most difficult decisions are behind us.

The leadership of our student body is a position in which we must rest our confidence, as it is the last line of defense against these attacks on student life. As we examine this year's crop of candidates, I believe we must pay critical attention to the skills required of the President: professionalism, leadership, and a passion to protect the interests of students.

Each of the three candidates for President is extraordinary, but I am convinced that Mr. Westerman is the individual that can both fulfill the duties of the position and effectively protect the interests of our student body.

As we prepare to break for E-Days, I would encourage my fellow students to take a few moments, visit the Trailhead portal, and cast their vote for an individual with the both the capacity to lead and the capability to succeed as our 2010-2011 Student Body President.

Respectfully,
Zach Aman

Editorials Policy

The Oredigger is a designated public forum. Editors have the authority to make all content decisions without censorship or advance approval and may edit submitted pieces for length so long as the original meaning of the piece is unchanged. Opinions contained within the Opinion Section do not necessarily reflect those of Colorado School of Mines or The Oredigger. The Oredigger does not accept submissions without identification and will consider all requests for anonymity in publication on a case-by-case basis. Submissions less than 300 words will receive preference.

Fool's Gold

Time and time again - peed my pants.



Drop expected in E-days attendance

Mike Stone
Bean Counter

Year after year, and decade after decade, "Engineering-days" brings joy and a moment of rest to the students of CSM just before spring finals. This year, however, the draw of E-days to students is down and attendance is expected to only be in the low thousands.

"Normally, we sell out of ticket and souvenir packages in the first fifteen minutes. This year, it took a full forty-five," explained Student Activities' Mary Horquarter. This alarming drop in sell-out time is the greatest decrease from a previous year in the school's history of selling tickets. The other, of course, was with the 2004 Alpha Phi carwash selling out in 18 minutes when the previous year was sold out in 28 seconds. The advent of E-days taking a full half-hour longer than its previous year drops the carwash to second place.

"It's been so bad, we are even selling tickets THIS week," revealed senior member of the MAC council, Dave Long, "The last time this happened was in 1974 and I THINK we all remember what hap-

pened that year."

Normal E-Days attendance has flowed in the hundreds of thousands throughout the last decade. The peak was in 2006 when a record 364,193 people attended the trebuchet contest during the field events. This year, the E-Days committee expects attendance won't even break 50,000.

"What are we going to do with all this extra beer we bought and port-a-potties we rented?" asked MAC council member, Stephanie Riotson. The excess purchases are deemed to be a hitch in the event's profit margin and this year's three-day event will only bring in a mere 1.4 million dollars for the school.

"We can't even buy a batch of 200mL beakers for that price," said chemistry professor and ex-guitarist, Bob Seger, "We're going to have to make some cuts next year if this keeps up."

This year's sub-par E-days events include fireworks, a midget-run carnival, performances by Marilyn Manson, and an oatmeal wrestling pit. For more details, check out the center foldout of this issue of the Oredigger.

Man arrested for duplicating key

Erik Lord
Keymaster

A Lakewood business owner, Stanley Jensen, was taken into custody Thursday afternoon outside Meyer Hardware in Golden. Jensen was apprehended after Meyer employees notified the police that he was attempting to have the key to the City of Lakewood duplicated.

"I knew something wasn't right when he came in here," said Meyer employee and key duplication specialist Jim Rooney. "He was carrying this huge gold key, about the size of a pair of garden shears and he was looking around the place with kind of shifty eyes."

Jensen approached Rooney, requesting two duplicate copies of the large key. "My first thought was 'there's no way I could duplicate something that size'...our key-making machine is just too small. Then I saw the inscription for the City of Lakewood on the key. I knew I had to call the cops."

Jensen was awarded the honorary key in November, 2008, for his philanthropic efforts as owner of Jensen Automotive, a company renowned for donating to charitable causes. He was unavailable for comment and it is unclear at this point what he intended to do with the duplicate keys. Lakewood Mayor John Sayer expressed his concerns about the incident. "We

gave Mr. Jensen that key in good faith that he would respect our great city. His actions are absolutely unacceptable." Sayer reassured local businesses that the security of their buildings had not been compromised and the key has been returned into the custody of city officials.

"We've discussed bestowing future keys that wouldn't unlock city buildings," the mayor added. "But it doesn't show much faith in the recipient if we can't trust them with an authentic key. Why would we hand out a giant key that doesn't unlock anything?"

The Lakewood city key gains access to several major facilities, including the Denver Federal Center and all buildings on the Red Rocks Community College campus. Neither location announced any increased security actions Friday.

The attempted duplication was not the first of its kind. Seattle grunge rocker J.C. Arnette was arrested in 2003 for making multiple copies of the city's key for his fellow band members. The key to the City of Los Angeles has been copied countless times, some reportedly selling on the black market for thousands of dollars.

Stanley Jensen will be held in Jefferson County Jail awaiting trial. He is being charged with a misdemeanor offense for the intent to produce counterfeit artifacts.

Marker gang activity on rise Crayola offers no comment

Janeen Neri
Gatekeeper

School officials were alarmed this week by a recent uptick in whiteboard marker crime. The figures suggest that the largest gang, the Chalky Hands, may be preparing for an all-out war with its rival, the Khakis.

"We've been noticing alarming levels of marker movement," said campus safety supervisor Ned Charles, "a signal that almost always precedes marker-related violence. The gangs appear to use the markers as a form of highly liquid currency, earned through theft and extortion rather than labor."

Marker gangs have been around for almost as long as there have been whiteboards in classrooms. "After we installed whiteboards at Mines," Charles explained, "it didn't take long for markers to become a valuable, hoarded commodity. Teachers learned to scavenge what markers they could from their current room, then hide them in their pockets or in easily concealed containers known as 'Ziploc bags.'" Soon, stronger professors learned that they could prey on the weaker, demanding coffee or free grading in return for "protecting" the target's whiteboard.

Craftier teachers, meanwhile, took delight in discarding "blanks" in the marker tray of the room as

they exited. The next one to use the room experienced a drug-like sensation combining a faint hope that this room was, at last, well-equipped, followed by the crushing defeat of finding only a dried-out husk. The discarders exploited their victims' psyche in this way until they were thoroughly addicted. Once several targets were primed, the attacker would finish by buying thousands of dollars worth of stock in a local teaching supply company, knowing that the addicts' poorly repressed desire for working markers would cause them to buy markers in bulk whenever they stayed up past midnight grading tests.

After several years of virtual anarchy, coalitions began to form. The oldest such gang would eventually become the Khakis, a brotherhood of professors identifiable by their trademark khaki pants that "poof" out awkwardly around the hip pockets. Soon to follow, were the Chalky Hands, who initially kept to the greener pastures of the chalkboard, however; the draw of the colorful marker was too strong,

and in 1988, the Chalks confronted the Khakis on their own ground. A time and a place were set. No one is certain where the final battle took place, but it is known that a room on the fourth floor of Chauvenet is spattered with red pen marks, including a huge, dribbling "Incorrect."

An uneasy peace has reigned over the rival gangs since the bloody war was waged, however; markers have begun furiously trading hands again, and experts fear it is only a matter of time. "We're seeing all the warning signs," Charles explained, "nervous looks as the teachers pull out their bags of markers, lots of blanking, even the use of student agents to pilfer markers from the other classrooms. I recommend that students be aware. If your teacher is frequently in 'meetings' or if he opens a fresh pack of markers, grabs the blue one, and begins to feverishly draw spirals all over his bald head, we ask that you please report the times and any known details to public safety immediately."



ZACH BOERNER / OREDIGGER



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